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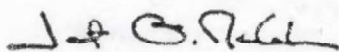
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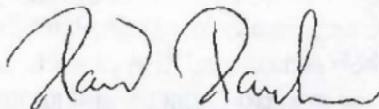
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact us or your staff may contact Ms. Patricia Haman in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-2806; Ms. Janine Benner, DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for House Affairs at (202) 586-5450; or Mr. Todd Batta, USDA's Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations at (202) 720-6643.

Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Doug Collins
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Collins:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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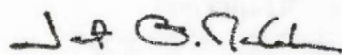
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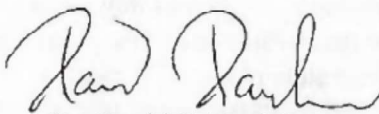
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Chris Collins
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Collins:

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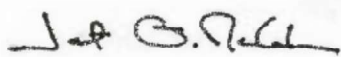
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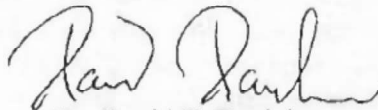
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and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Ryan K. Zinke
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Zinke:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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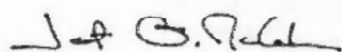
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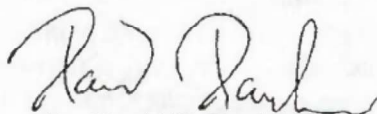
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and Renewable Energy
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Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable David Young
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Young:

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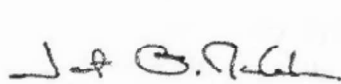
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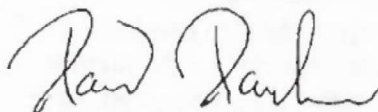
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Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Ted S. Yoho, DVM
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Yoho:

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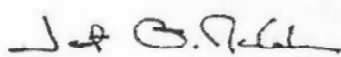
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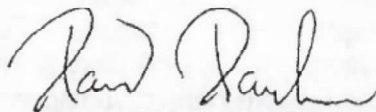
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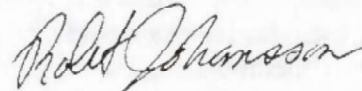
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Westerman:

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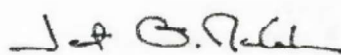
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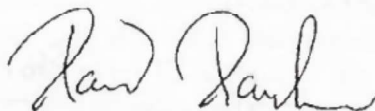
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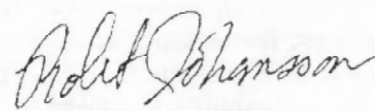
Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Jackie Walorski
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Walorski:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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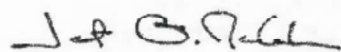
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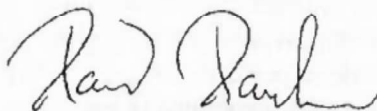
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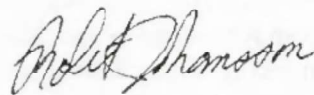
Sincerely,



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Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
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Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Ann Wagner
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Wagner:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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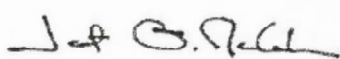
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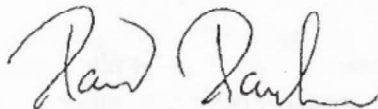
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Sincerely,



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Dr. David T. Danielson
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Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Norma J. Torres
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Torres:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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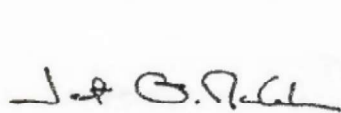
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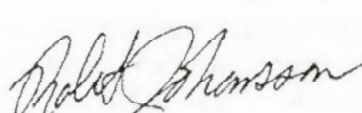
Sincerely,



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Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Scott R. Tipton
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Tipton:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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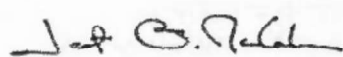
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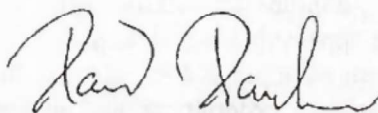
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U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Glenn "GT" Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Thompson:

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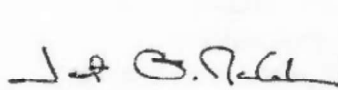
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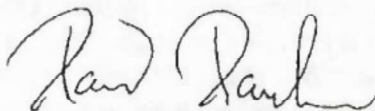
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Eric Swalwell
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Swalwell:

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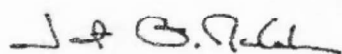
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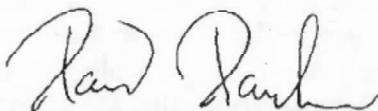
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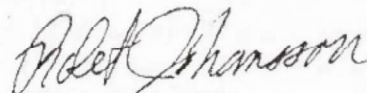
Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Elise M. Stefanik
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Stefanik:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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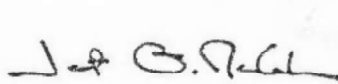
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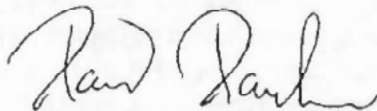
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact us or your staff may contact Ms. Patricia Haman in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-2806; Ms. Janine Benner, DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for House Affairs at (202) 586-5450; or Mr. Todd Batta, USDA's Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations at (202) 720-6643.

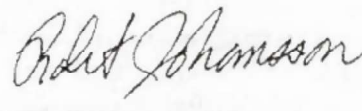
Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
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Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable David Scott
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Scott:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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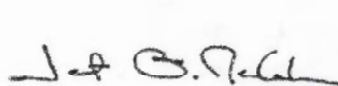
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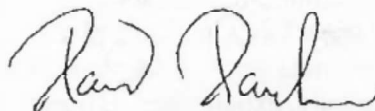
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Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
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Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable David Rouzer
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rouzer:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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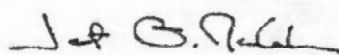
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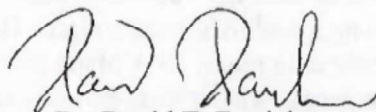
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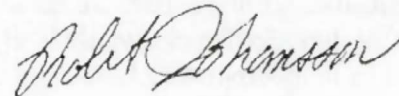
Sincerely,



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U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
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U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Mike D. Rogers
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rogers:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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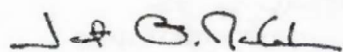
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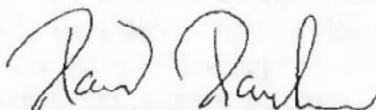
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Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Martha Roby
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Roby:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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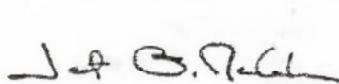
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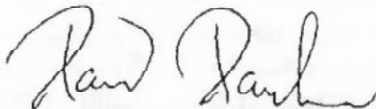
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Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
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U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Cedric L. Richmond
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Richmond:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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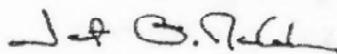
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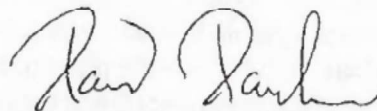
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact us or your staff may contact Ms. Patricia Haman in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-2806; Ms. Janine Benner, DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for House Affairs at (202) 586-5450; or Mr. Todd Batta, USDA's Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations at (202) 720-6643.

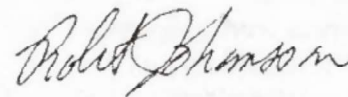
Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
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Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Tom Rice
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rice:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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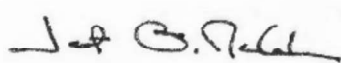
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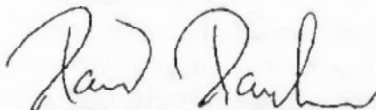
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and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable John Ratcliffe
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Ratcliffe:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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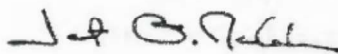
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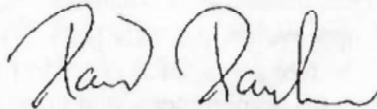
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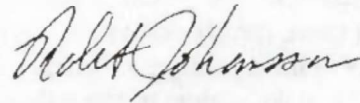
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Dr. Robert Johansson
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Mark Pocan
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pocan:

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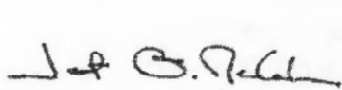
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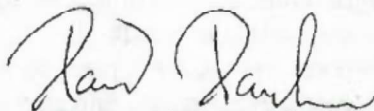
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U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Gary Palmer
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Palmer:

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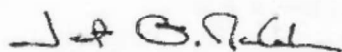
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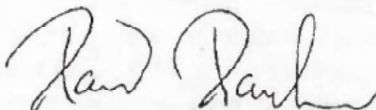
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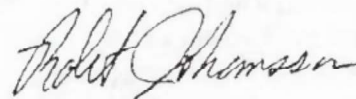
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U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Steven M. Palazzo
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Palazzo:

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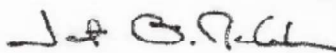
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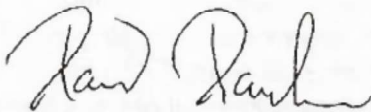
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Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Rodgers:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

The President's Climate Action Plan and All-of-the-Above Energy Strategy lay a foundation for a clean energy future and foster expansion of renewable energy, including biomass. At the same time, the President's Climate Action Plan highlights the critical role that America's forests play in addressing carbon pollution in the United States. Our agencies agree that production and use of biomass energy can be an integral part of regimes that promote conservation and responsible forest management. States also recognize the importance of forests, and many have been developing a variety of forest and land use management policies and programs that both address climate change and foster increased biomass utilization as part of their energy future.

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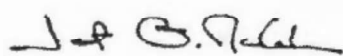
Under USDA's Wood to Energy Initiative, USDA has supported over 230 Wood Energy projects through nearly \$1 billion in grants, loans, and loan guarantees since 2009 through a host of programs, including the Renewable Energy for America Program and the Biomass Crop Assistance Program. USDA has established state-wide wood energy teams in 19 states that are helping deliver needed technical and financial assistance to expand those markets further.

DOE recognizes the importance of wood as a renewable energy source. DOE is leading efforts to develop and demonstrate technologies for producing cost-competitive advanced biofuels from non-food biomass resources, including forest and wood resources, algae, and waste streams. These efforts require rigorous scientific study and evaluation to understand the impacts of various biomass feedstocks, especially woody resources, to optimize the benefits of their use.

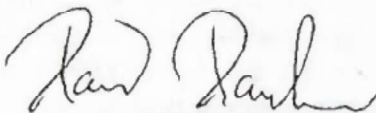
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact us or your staff may contact Ms. Patricia Haman in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-2806; Ms. Janine Benner, DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for House Affairs at (202) 586-5450; or Mr. Todd Batta, USDA's Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations at (202) 720-6643.

Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable David B. McKinley
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McKinley:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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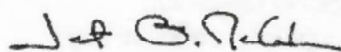
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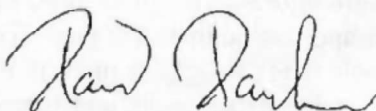
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Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
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Office of Air and Radiation
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Agency



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and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Barry Loudermilk
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Loudermilk:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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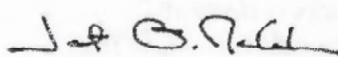
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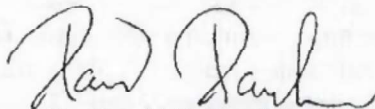
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U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman LaMalfa:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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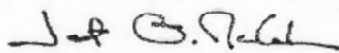
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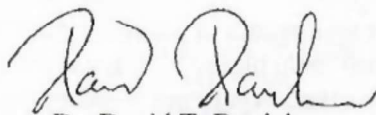
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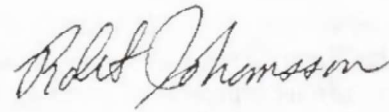
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U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Ann McLane Kuster
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Kuster:

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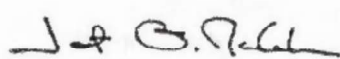
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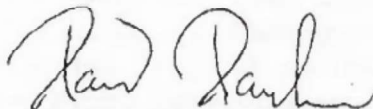
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Ann Kirkpatrick
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Kirkpatrick:

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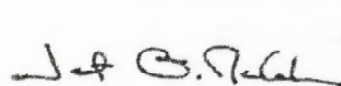
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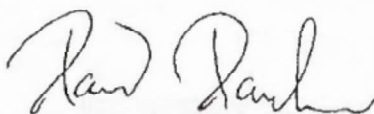
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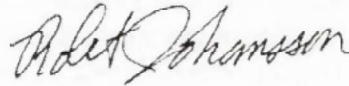
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Evan H. Jenkins
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Jenkins:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

The President's Climate Action Plan and All-of-the-Above Energy Strategy lay a foundation for a clean energy future and foster expansion of renewable energy, including biomass. At the same time, the President's Climate Action Plan highlights the critical role that America's forests play in addressing carbon pollution in the United States. Our agencies agree that production and use of biomass energy can be an integral part of regimes that promote conservation and responsible forest management. States also recognize the importance of forests, and many have been developing a variety of forest and land use management policies and programs that both address climate change and foster increased biomass utilization as part of their energy future.

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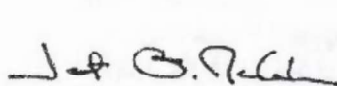
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DOE recognizes the importance of wood as a renewable energy source. DOE is leading efforts to develop and demonstrate technologies for producing cost-competitive advanced biofuels from non-food biomass resources, including forest and wood resources, algae, and waste streams. These efforts require rigorous scientific study and evaluation to understand the impacts of various biomass feedstocks, especially woody resources, to optimize the benefits of their use.

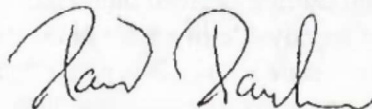
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact us or your staff may contact Ms. Patricia Haman in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-2806; Ms. Janine Benner, DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for House Affairs at (202) 586-5450; or Mr. Todd Batta, USDA's Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations at (202) 720-6643.


Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Robert Hurt
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hurt:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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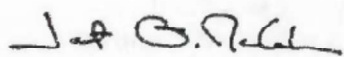
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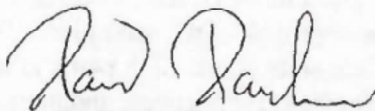
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Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
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Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Richard Hudson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hudson:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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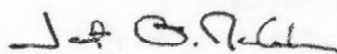
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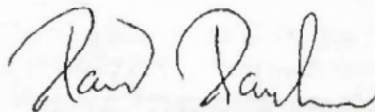
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Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
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U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Denny Heck
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Heck:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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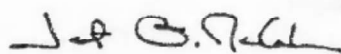
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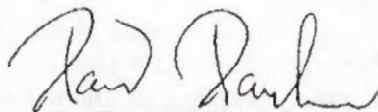
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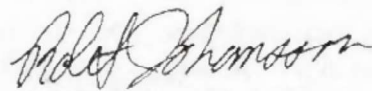
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Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Richard L. Hanna
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hanna:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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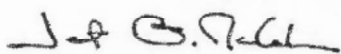
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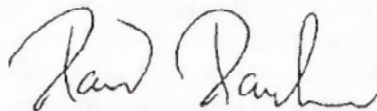
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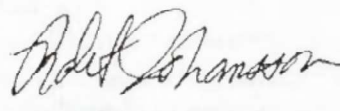
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Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Frank C. Guinta
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Guinta:

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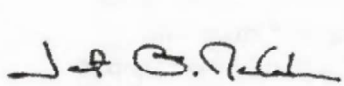
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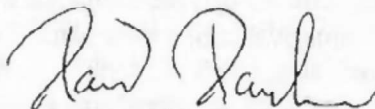
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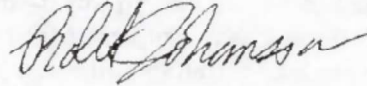
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U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Glenn Grothman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Grothman:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

The President's Climate Action Plan and All-of-the-Above Energy Strategy lay a foundation for a clean energy future and foster expansion of renewable energy, including biomass. At the same time, the President's Climate Action Plan highlights the critical role that America's forests play in addressing carbon pollution in the United States. Our agencies agree that production and use of biomass energy can be an integral part of regimes that promote conservation and responsible forest management. States also recognize the importance of forests, and many have been developing a variety of forest and land use management policies and programs that both address climate change and foster increased biomass utilization as part of their energy future.

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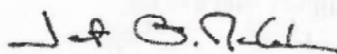
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DOE recognizes the importance of wood as a renewable energy source. DOE is leading efforts to develop and demonstrate technologies for producing cost-competitive advanced biofuels from non-food biomass resources, including forest and wood resources, algae, and waste streams. These efforts require rigorous scientific study and evaluation to understand the impacts of various biomass feedstocks, especially woody resources, to optimize the benefits of their use.

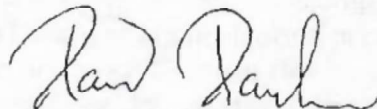
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact us or your staff may contact Ms. Patricia Haman in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-2806; Ms. Janine Benner, DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for House Affairs at (202) 586-5450; or Mr. Todd Batta, USDA's Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations at (202) 720-6643.

Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Garret Graves
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Graves:

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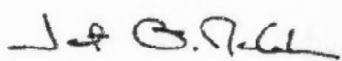
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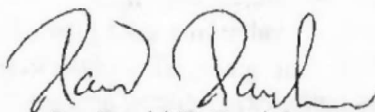
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U.S. Department of Energy



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Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Paul A. Gosar
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gosar:

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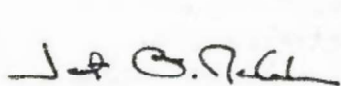
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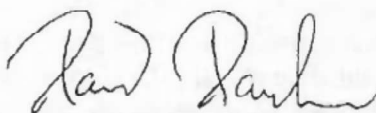
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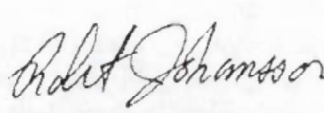
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Bob Gibbs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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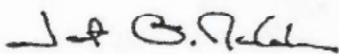
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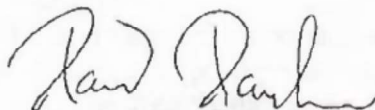
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U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Fleischmann:

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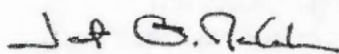
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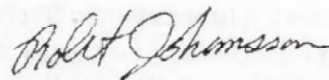
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Jeff Duncan
U.S. House of Representatives
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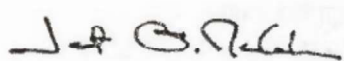
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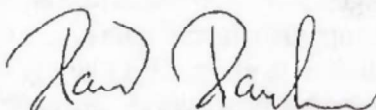
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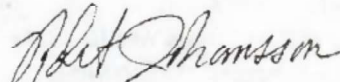
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U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman DesJarlais:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

The President's Climate Action Plan and All-of-the-Above Energy Strategy lay a foundation for a clean energy future and foster expansion of renewable energy, including biomass. At the same time, the President's Climate Action Plan highlights the critical role that America's forests play in addressing carbon pollution in the United States. Our agencies agree that production and use of biomass energy can be an integral part of regimes that promote conservation and responsible forest management. States also recognize the importance of forests, and many have been developing a variety of forest and land use management policies and programs that both address climate change and foster increased biomass utilization as part of their energy future.

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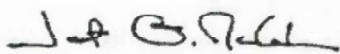
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Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact us or your staff may contact Ms. Patricia Haman in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-2806; Ms. Janine Benner, DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for House Affairs at (202) 586-5450; or Mr. Todd Batta, USDA's Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations at (202) 720-6643.

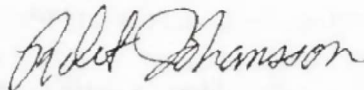
Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Suzan K. DelBene
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman DelBene:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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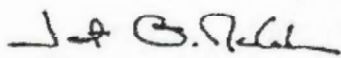
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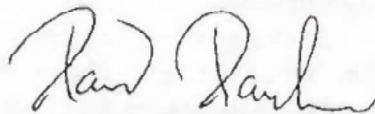
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Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Barbara Comstock
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Comstock:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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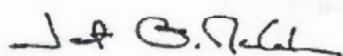
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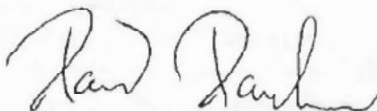
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and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable James E. Clyburn
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Clyburn:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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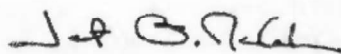
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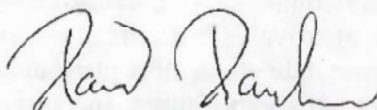
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and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Carter:

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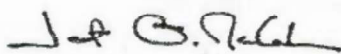
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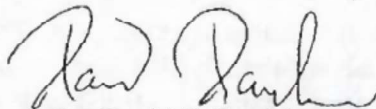
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Dr. Robert Johansson
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December 23, 2015

The Honorable Bradley Byrne
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Byrne:

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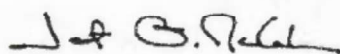
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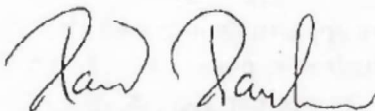
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December 23, 2015

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Dear Congressman Brady:

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The President's Climate Action Plan and All-of-the-Above Energy Strategy lay a foundation for a clean energy future and foster expansion of renewable energy, including biomass. At the same time, the President's Climate Action Plan highlights the critical role that America's forests play in addressing carbon pollution in the United States. Our agencies agree that production and use of biomass energy can be an integral part of regimes that promote conservation and responsible forest management. States also recognize the importance of forests, and many have been developing a variety of forest and land use management policies and programs that both address climate change and foster increased biomass utilization as part of their energy future.

Recent EPA regulatory action and scientific work on assessing biogenic carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from stationary sources is part of this broad climate strategy. In August 2015, EPA released the final Clean Power Plan (CPP), which describes the ways in which the use of biomass may be a component of state plans. For example, in the CPP, EPA generally acknowledges the benefits of waste-derived biogenic feedstocks and certain forest- and agriculture-derived industrial byproduct feedstocks and expects that these feedstocks would likely be approvable in a state plan. To support states and stakeholders in incorporating bioenergy in their state plans, EPA plans to hold a public workshop in early 2016 for stakeholders to share their successes, experiences, and approaches to deploying biomass in ways that have been, and can be, carbon beneficial. In addition, EPA has also developed a revised *Framework for Assessing Biogenic Carbon Dioxide from Stationary Sources* that can assist states when considering the role of biomass in state plan submittals. The revised report takes into account the latest information from the scientific community and other stakeholders, including findings from EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB) review of the first draft framework. EPA is continuing to refine its accounting work through a second round of targeted peer review with the SAB in 2015.¹

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USDA recognizes the important role forest management and biomass will play in both our energy and climate future. Increasing the demand for wood for energy results in more forest area, more forest investment, and potential greenhouse gas reductions. To increase forest stocks and improve forest health and management, we must develop incentives that keep working forestland forested and support forest restoration, reforestation, and afforestation. This is all the more critical, especially amid development pressures and increasing threats from insects, disease, and wildfire.

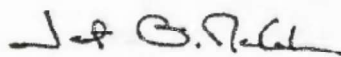
Under USDA's Wood to Energy Initiative, USDA has supported over 230 Wood Energy projects through nearly \$1 billion in grants, loans, and loan guarantees since 2009 through a host of programs, including the Renewable Energy for America Program and the Biomass Crop Assistance Program. USDA has established state-wide wood energy teams in 19 states that are helping deliver needed technical and financial assistance to expand those markets further.

DOE recognizes the importance of wood as a renewable energy source. DOE is leading efforts to develop and demonstrate technologies for producing cost-competitive advanced biofuels from non-food biomass resources, including forest and wood resources, algae, and waste streams. These efforts require rigorous scientific study and evaluation to understand the impacts of various biomass feedstocks, especially woody resources, to optimize the benefits of their use.

In the context of the President's Climate Action Plan and All-of-the-Above Energy Strategy, DOE, EPA, and USDA will work together to ensure that biomass energy plays a role in America's clean energy future. As stated in your letter, the American people deserve a Federal policy that recognizes the benefits of forest bioenergy. Together, our agencies are working carefully and consistently to quantify the benefits of using wood for energy.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact us or your staff may contact Ms. Patricia Haman in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-2806; Ms. Janine Benner, DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for House Affairs at (202) 586-5450; or Mr. Todd Batta, USDA's Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations at (202) 720-6643.

Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
Assistant Secretary
Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Bonamici:

Thank you for your July 31, 2015, letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack, and U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, regarding the role of forest bioenergy in meeting our Nation's energy and climate goals. They have asked us to respond on their behalf.

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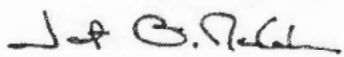
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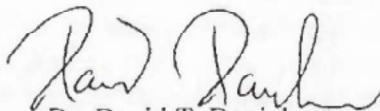
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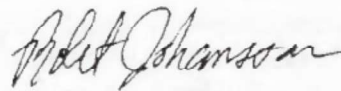
Sincerely,



Janet G. McCabe
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Office of Air and Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency



Dr. David T. Danielson
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Office of Energy Efficiency
and Renewable Energy
U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. Robert Johansson
Chief Economist
U.S. Department of Agriculture



December 23, 2015

The Honorable Rod Blum
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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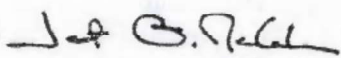
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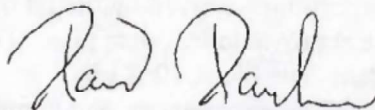
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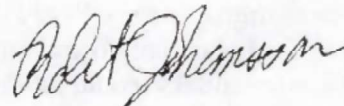
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